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STATE COUNCIL OF CIVIL DEFENSE
MAIN CAPITOL BUILDING
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

August 20, 1952

INFORMATION CIRCULAR NO. 28

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

1953 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

1. The State Council of Civil Defense, at its meeting on August 13, 1952, discussed matters of civil defense legislation at some length. It was generally agreed that the State Council of Civil Defense Act of 1951 and supporting laws (Acts Nos. 4, 5, 6 and 7 of the 1951 Session of the General Assembly) have proven, on the whole, very satisfactory. In an attempt to provide still more effective legislation, however, the following action was taken:

(a) The Council approved the introduction, in the coming session of the General Assembly, of an amendment which would clarify the legal status (insofar as liability is concerned) of property owners and operators who make their properties available for use as civil defense shelters. A copy of the suggested form of this amendment is attached.

(b) The Council also directed its Harrisburg staff, in cooperation with the Department of Labor and Industry, to compile detailed information (estimated cost, administrative problems, etc.) concerning possible amendments which would provide death and injury compensation for civil defense workers undergoing training prior to the outbreak of actual war.

2. As an aid in the development of a sound legislative program for 1953, the Council will welcome receipt of suggestions concerning desirable amendments to existing civil defense legislation. In order to provide ample time for study and discussion by all interested individuals and organizations, all such suggestions should be forwarded to the Director, State Council of Civil Defense, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania not later than October 10, 1952 and preferably just as far in advance of that date as may be possible. These suggestions need not be limited to amendments of the two types mentioned in Paragraph 1, immediately above. They should cover all points which might lead to a more effective civil defense organization.

3. The Council periodically will inform County and Local Civil Defense Directors of developments in the 1953 legislative program.

Richard Gerstell

Richard Gerstell
Director of Civil Defense

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Enclosure 1

